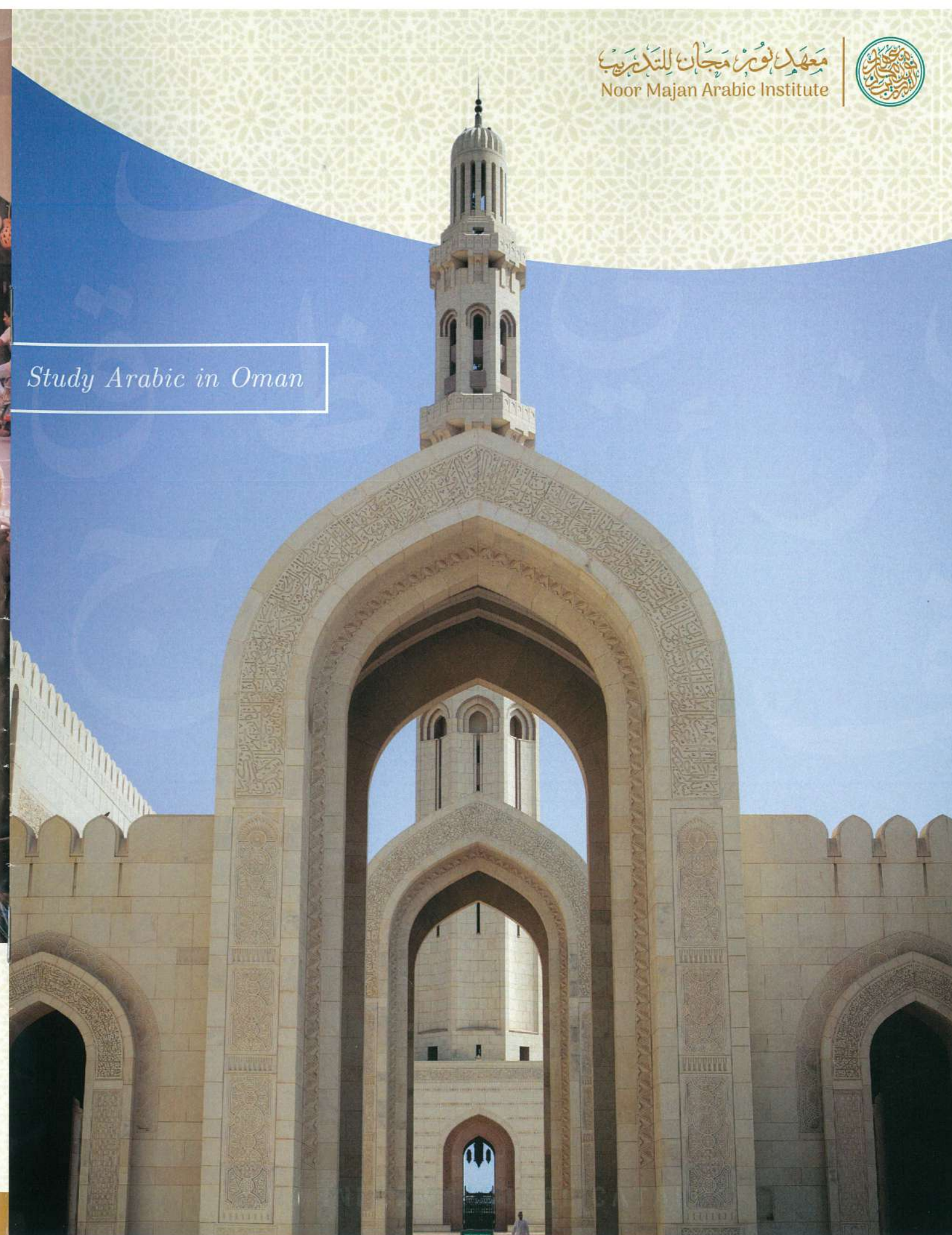


معهد نور مجان للتعليم
Noor Majan Arabic Institute



Study Arabic in Oman



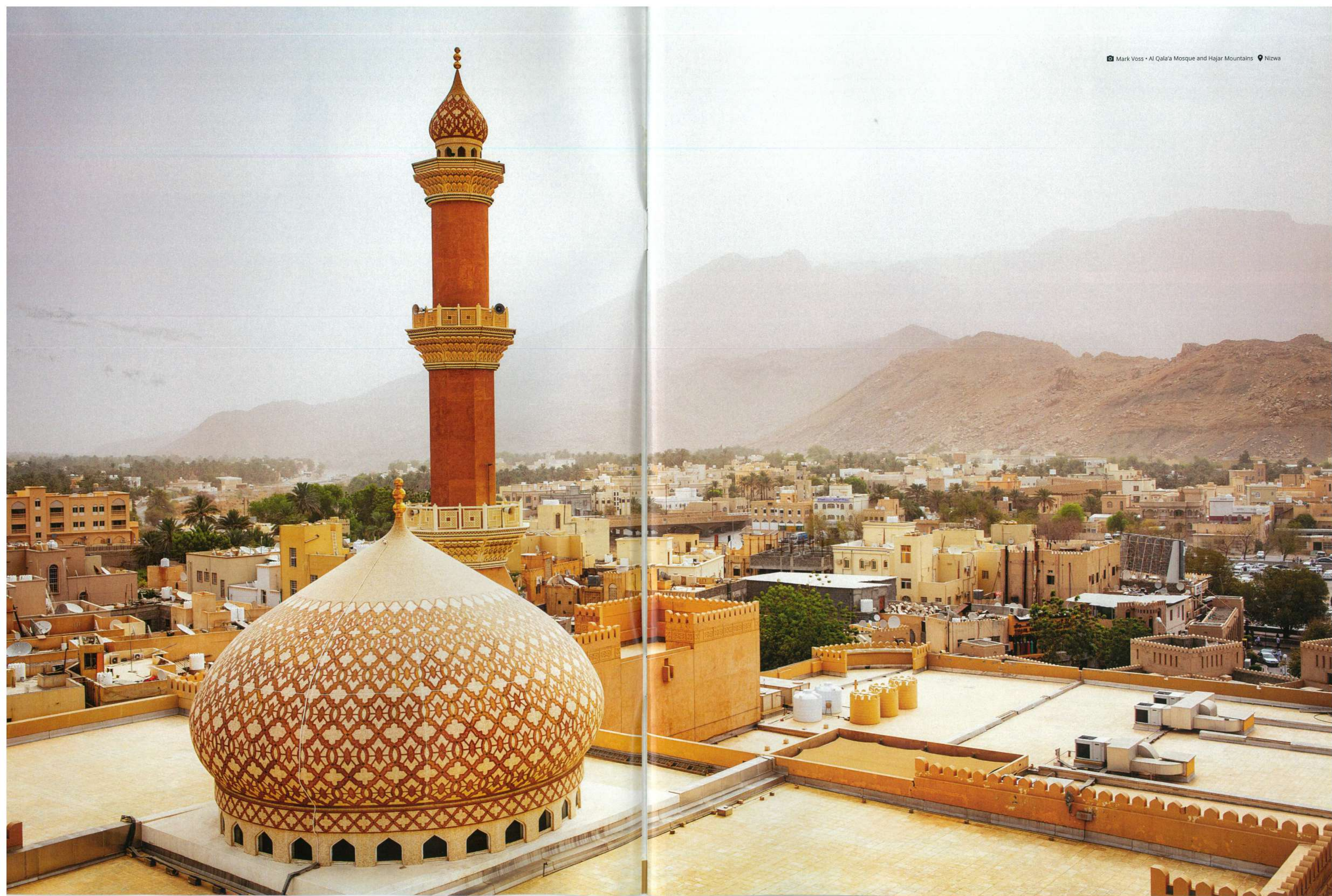
Noor Majan Arabic Institute
Shadow Building
Plot No. 4507, Building No. 539
Al Khuwair, Muscat, Oman
Box 2428, PC-133 Muscat

Daaris Institute
Nizwa Souq
North of Nizwa Fort
PO Box 858, PC: 611 Nizwa
Sultanate of Oman

MEMBER
THE
FORUM
ON EDUCATION
ABROAD

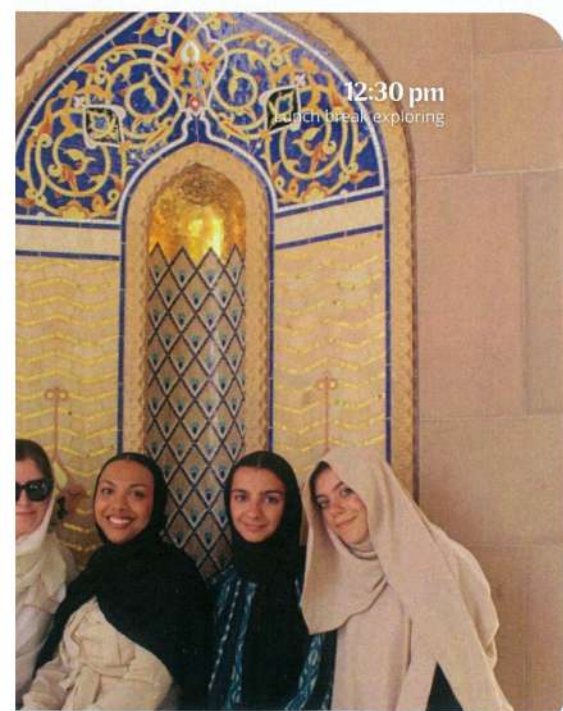
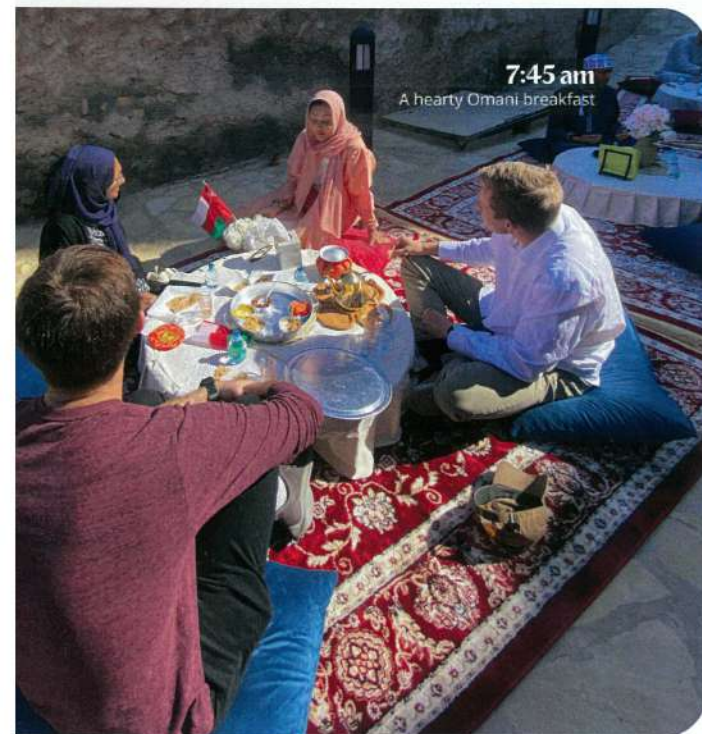
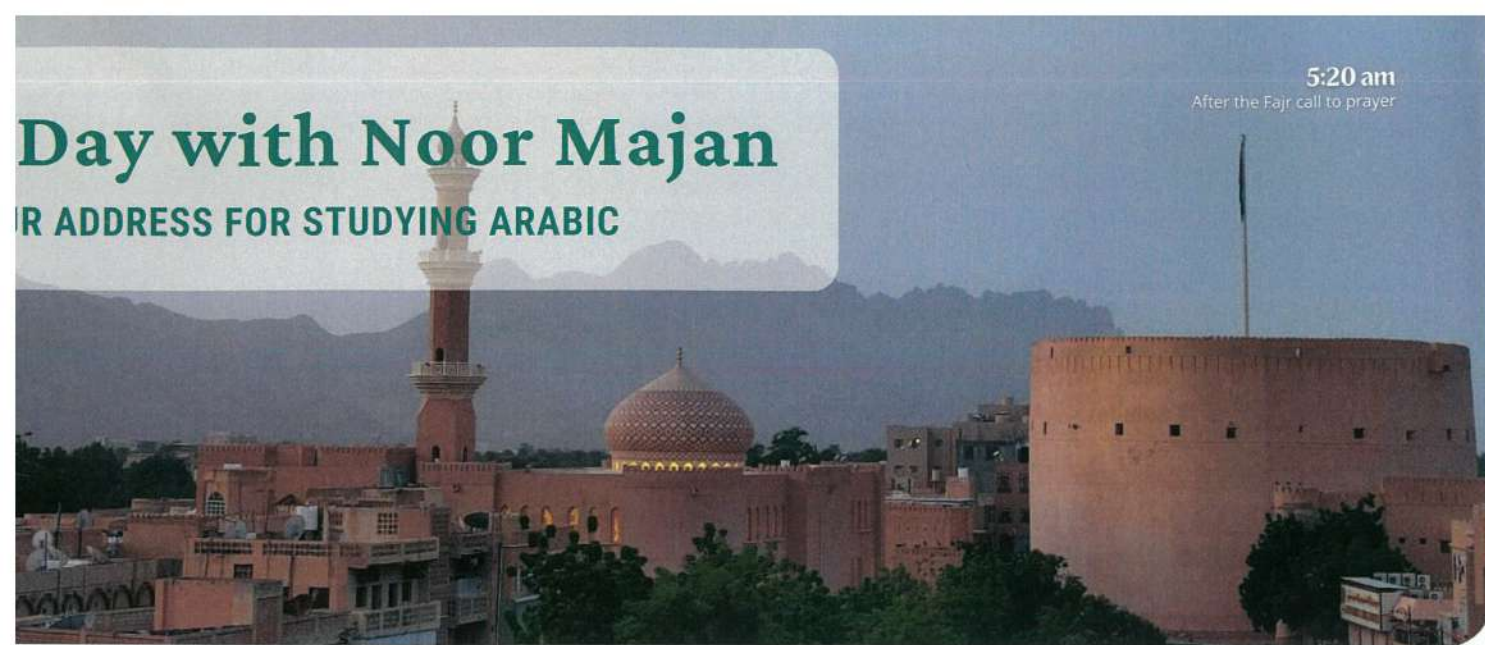


WWW.NOORMAJAN-INSTITUTE.COM | WWW.DAAARIS.COM



Day with Noor Majan

ADDRESS FOR STUDYING ARABIC



“

There's so much that comes to mind when I think about my time at Noor Majan. Sharing a *karak* tea with my Omani friends at coffee shops, Eid holiday with my language partner's family, navigating the labyrinth of Muscat's Mutrah Souq, and practicing Arabic with friends at picnics under the starry night sky of the desert. Most importantly, I walked away from my summer in Oman with a newfound confidence in the Arabic language.

— Summer Muscat program participant



THE NOOR MAJAN DIFFERENCE

ACADEMICS



Classes taught entirely by accredited native Arabic speakers from Oman and other countries in the region.



Courses in all ACTFL Modern Standard Arabic levels, in addition to innovative Omani Gulf dialect courses and more.



Options for researchers, professionals, study abroad, and language enthusiasts

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



Two host cities to choose from (Muscat and Nizwa), each with their own flair and character.



Apartment/dorm housing arrangements for all students, included in course fees at both the Muscat and Nizwa institutes.



Students demonstrated an Arabic oral proficiency growth of two ACTFL levels on average during 2-month summer programs, 2016–2019.



Twice-weekly meetings with vetted Omani language partners (Noor Majan main campus in Muscat only)



UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

Mark Voss • Students talk to merchants during an excursion in Ibra' Old Souq



Mark Voss • A Noor Majan student mingles with language partners

Noor | نور Majan | مجان

(n.) light, illumination

(proper n.) an ancient civilization that encompassed what is today Oman

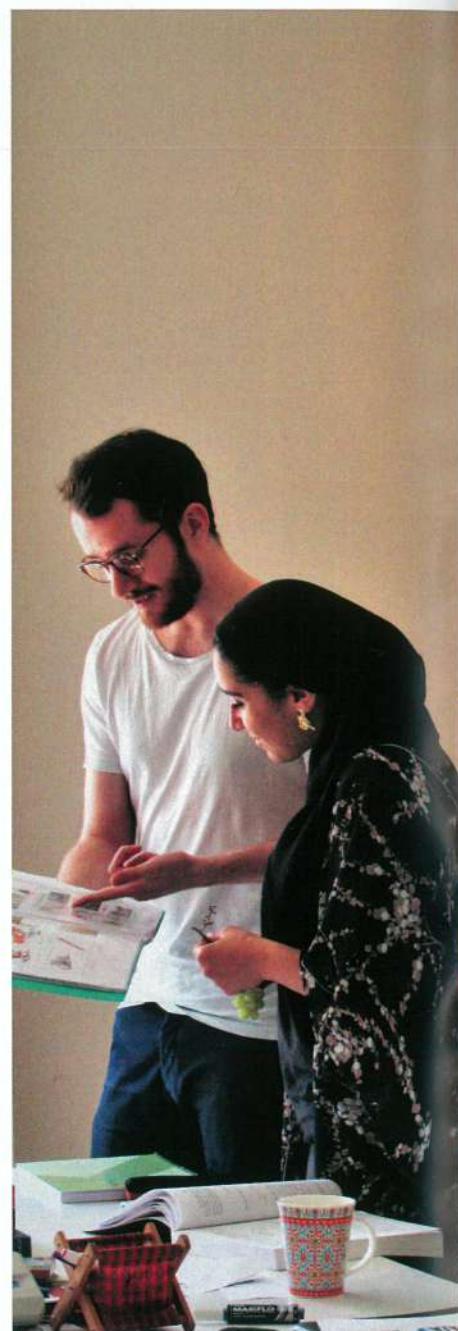
The Noor Majan Arabic Institute was founded in 2012 with a name that speaks to Oman's Islamic modernity (Noor) and its rich history on the Arabian Peninsula (Majan). Ten years later, the institute has emerged as a premier site for studying Arabic abroad in the Gulf region. From its eight original students in 2012, the institute today serves more than 200 students annually from over 15 countries.

Noor Majan's Muscat campus and our Daaris Institute in Nizwa provide students the flexibility to choose programs more suited to their unique needs and interests. Together with a team of Omani instructors, enthusiastic staff, and a welcoming community, we invite you to achieve your Arabic language study goals with us. We offer programs geared towards expatriates, study-abroad students, and professionals and welcome you all to seek out a unique experience here in Oman.

UNIVERSITIES & ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED

- Brigham Young University
- Bryn Mawr College
- Embassies of France, Germany, Ethiopia, India, Singapore, Turkey, the U.S., and the U.K.
- George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Grand Valley State University
- Harvard University
- Leiden University
- Ohio State University
- Portland State University
- Princeton University
- School of Oriental and African Studies
- Texas A&M University
- U.S. Air Force Academy
- U.S. Naval Academy
- University of Arizona
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Freiburg
- University of Kentucky
- University of Mississippi
- University of New Mexico
- University of North Georgia
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Rhode Island
- University of Texas at Austin
- Virginia Tech University

... and more!



COURSE OFFERINGS

Before arriving in Oman, Noor Majan students take a comprehensive placement exam online that assigns them to one of 11 levels as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

INTENSIVE MSA PROGRAM

Base MSA Course

Noor Majan offers 11 levels of Arabic instruction that correspond to the ACTFL's language proficiency levels.

Media Arabic

Focuses on applying knowledge to understand articles, books, and current world events.

LEVELS

Arabic 101: Novice Low		N/A
Arabic 102: Novice Mid		
Arabic 201: Novice High		A1
Arabic 202: Intermediate Low		A2
Arabic 301: Intermediate Mid		
Arabic 302: Intermediate High		B1
Arabic 401: Advanced Low		B2
Arabic 402: Advanced Mid		
Arabic 501: Advanced High		C1
Arabic 502: Superior		C2*
Arabic 503: Distinguished		

ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

Omani Dialect

Innovative dialect classes that impart students with an understanding of Omani Arabic, which is a dialect of Gulf Arabic.

Arab Poetry

Advanced Arabic taught through the lens of the language's poetic greats.

Arabic for Research

Ideal for researchers studying historical Arabic source materials for theses, dissertations, publications, and more.

* Approximate Common European Framework of Reference oral proficiency equivalents.

METHODOLOGY

Noor Majan’s methodology places equal importance of speaking, reading, writing, and listening and strives for students to advance in all four areas. Instruction time is divided between two distinct concentrations:

- Foundational knowledge in Modern Standard Arabic
- Application of knowledge and skills through media literacy

Throughout both concentrations, Noor Majan utilizes the third edition of *Al Kitaab Fi Ta'allum Al-'Arabiyya* (Mahmoud Al Batal) as the primary course material. Complementary material from *Al Kitaab Al-Asasi (1-3)* (El-Said Badawi), *Modern Standard Arabic* (Eckehard Schultz), and *Ahlan Wa Sahlan* (Mahdi Alosch) may also be used. The media Arabic class in particular draws on authentic and relevant material selected by our instructors to demonstrate real-world applications of the language skills.

We follow the international teaching standards set by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and teach Arabic at all eleven ACTFL-defined levels.

LANGUAGE PARTNERS

All Noor Majan students in Muscat* meet with an Omani language partner for a total of two hours a week. This allows students to apply their classroom knowledge to the real world and gain confidence. Language partners more than often become good friends and invite students to accompany them on outings and to cultural events.

Noor Majan’s language partners are chosen through a competitive interview process. Once selected, they are given training in effective intercultural communication and language engagement strategies.

** Language partners are part of the tuition package in Muscat. Students at the Daaris Institute in Nizwa are encouraged to take advantage of Nizwa’s vibrant university population to seek out friendships and opportunities for immersion.*



Mark Voss • Jilgreen Castle, Bahla



Mark Voss • Students study Arabic on the road



Omanis welcome students to use national garb • Ibri



The Shadow Building in Muscat (right), home to Noor Majan’s classrooms

NOOR MAJAN–MUSCAT



THE CAMPUS

The Noor Majan–Muscat campus is located in a modern and multi-story building at the heart of the Al-Khuwair shopping and commercial district. The campus is surrounded by a number of lively restaurants, stores, and cafés and is near essential services such as hospitals and pharmacies.

Noor Majan–Muscat’s centralized location places students equidistant from places of interest in Muscat. The campus is located 10 minutes away from the Al-Qurum Beach, the Muscat Royal Opera House, the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, and less than 15 minutes from Muscat International Airport.

MUSCAT PROGRAM COSTS

J-TERM	SUMMER	SEMESTER
1,225 OMR	2,445 OMR	3,585 OMR
~\$3,180 USD	~\$6,350 USD	~\$9,310 USD

** A contact hour is equivalent to 50 minutes of instruction time.
** Summer is a 9-week program with a week of break for Eid. The semester price is for a 12-week spring program. Fall semesters are usually 15 weeks and have a tuition of OMR 4,505 (\$11,700). Check our website for up-to-date prices.*



PROGRAMS

Programs at the Muscat campus are highly flexible and range from short term programs such as a 4-week winter term, and 4-week, 6-week, and 8-week programs throughout the year. There are also long-term programs for students who want to do a full semester or year abroad. Students can start at any of the 11 levels offered at any time of the year. All programs amount to 25 contact hours per week or 100 contact hours* per month. All students additionally receive two hours of language partner practice every week.

Program prices include the following:

- Tuition (100 hours monthly)
- Airport pickup
- Lunch during class days
- Student visa
- Accommodation
- Excursions & cultural activities
- 2 hours of language partner practice weekly

MUSCAT

A HIDDEN PEARL ON THE GULF

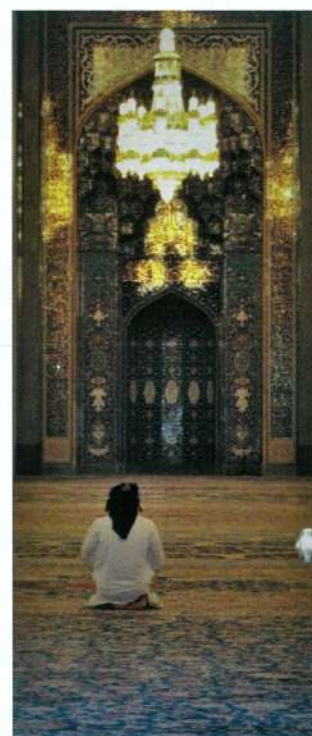
Wedge between the sea and the jagged rocks of the Hajar Mountains, Muscat is rather quiet in comparison to its neighbor Dubai. Under the surface of its pearly cityscape, however, is a cosmopolitan culture that speaks to its history as a port for ships from all corners of the globe.

1,400,000 residents (rank in Oman: 1)

One possible meaning for the name Muscat is “falling place,” a fitting name for a city where merchant ships have dropped their anchors for centuries. Muscat reflects this history in its cultural diversity as a crossroads between East Africa, South Asia, and the entire Arab Gulf. Today, nearly one and a half million people live in the greater Muscat area, including the suburban areas of Muttrah and Seeb.

Different from the dazzling skylines of Dubai or Doha, Oman’s capital maintains an unassuming appearance of low, whitewashed buildings. As the country’s political capital, the city hosts many of Oman’s most spectacular mosques, museums, and cultural sites. Among the most iconic representations of the city are the sprawling Sultan Qaboos Mosque and the Sultan’s Palace. Muscat boasts many luxury hotels, shopping centers, and of course, sandy beaches for relaxing getaways. A long coastal road connects Muscat to the Muttrah port, home to a teeming souq. Here, students can put their Arabic to use while shopping for frankincense, Omani handicrafts, Islamic artwork, national clothes, and much more.

Students who come to Muscat enjoy the international environment and social atmosphere to converse with Arabic speakers from across the region. The city’s well-connected international airport allows for direct travel to many regional and global destinations.



Mark Voss | Falaj Irrigation System, Wadi Dahir al-Fawaris

EXCURSIONS

Noor Majan treats culture as an inseparable component of language learning. Thus, students studying in Muscat are invited to participate in semi-weekly cultural excursions around Oman as part of their tuition package. These excursions represent opportunities to explore the country and serve to complement their language studies and are included in the tuition package. Locations of excursions are determined by factors including season, weather, safety, and availability of local hosts and guides.

NIZWA FORT AND SOUQ

2 days • History and culture

Immerse yourself in the rich heritage of Nizwa, Oman’s de facto cultural and religious capital. Nizwa’s market with its live animal auctions and friendly people make it a consistent favorite destination.

AL SHARQIYAH REGION

2 days • Nature and culture

Camp under the starry desert skies in the Sharqiyah Sands natural area and visit a traditional shipbuilding workshop in the coastal city of Sur. Make a stop at the Ras Al Hadd beach to witness sea turtles come ashore to lay eggs (seasonal)

WADI BANI KHALID

1 day • Nature and recreation

Swim in the refreshing waters of a natural wadi (canyon) in Omans eastern region.

MUTTRAH SOUQ

1 day • Culture

Crisscross Oman’s largest traditional market and indulge in some of the country’s scents and flavors. Muttrah is an excellent place to pick out gifts and products unique to the Sultanate.

AL DAKHILIYAH REGION

2–3 days • Nature and culture

Trace the alleys of the ancient village of Misfat al-Abriyeen and experience the natural beauty of Jebel Akhdar, one of Oman’s most splendid natural areas.

DAARIS INSTITUTE-NIZWA

دارس
Daaris

POWERED BY: NOOR MAJAN ARABIC INSTITUTE

THE CAMPUS

In fall 2022, Noor Majan opened its affiliated Daaris Institute in the interior city of Nizwa with the goal of offering students an alternative, more independent study program.

The Daaris Institute is housed in a building that overlooks the idyllic Nizwa Old Souq and with views of the surrounding Hajar Mountains. With nine classrooms, the institute has the capacity to host 60 students at any given time and is happy to work with university Arabic programs to host groups.

DAARIS INSTITUTE COSTS

J-TERM	SUMMER	SEMESTER
600 OMR	1,200 OMR	2,250 OMR
~\$1,560 USD	~\$3,120 USD	~\$5,860 USD

*A contact hour is equivalent to 50 minutes of instruction time.

** Summer price is for an 8-week program and semester price is for a 15-week fall program. A 16-week spring semester in Nizwa is available for OMR 2,400.

PROGRAMS

Noor Majan's Daaris Institute in Nizwa offers an experience designed with independent learners and explorers in mind. Daaris's fees exclusively cover housing and tuition and offer a more budget-friendly, less structured option. The following programs are offered:

- J-term (January), 4 weeks
- Summer program, 8 or 9 weeks
- Semester term, 15 weeks (fall) or 16 weeks (spring)

While the instruction methods are the same as Noor Majan-Muscat, tuition costs at Daaris do not include structured excursions. Students are therefore encouraged to explore the country independently according to their own budget. Students at Daaris will not be assigned language partners, but will find that Nizwa's lively university community makes it easier to make local Omani friends independently.

Semester students will start at one of three levels for each semester: beginner low, intermediate low, and advanced low. Upon the end of the semester, they can expect to reach beginner high, intermediate high, and advanced high levels respectively. Each month of class consists of 100 contact hours* (25 per week), just as at Noor Majan-Muscat.



Program prices include the following:

- Tuition (100 contact hours monthly)
- Accommodation

NIZWA

نزوى

A CULTURAL HUB NESTLED IN THE MOUNTAINS

Nizwa serves as Oman's de facto religious capital, with a long history of cultivating Islamic culture and scientific and literary intellect. Its spectacular forts, mountain views, and ancient souqs make it a popular stop for international tourists.

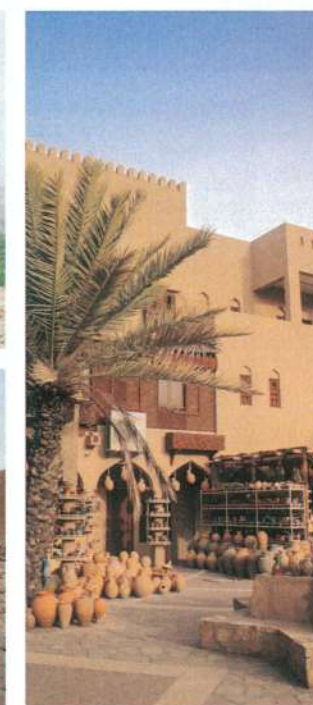
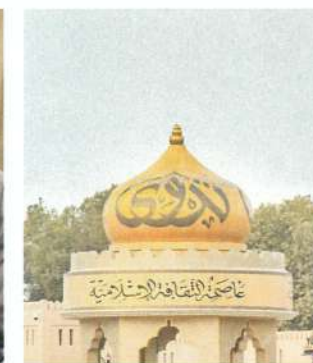
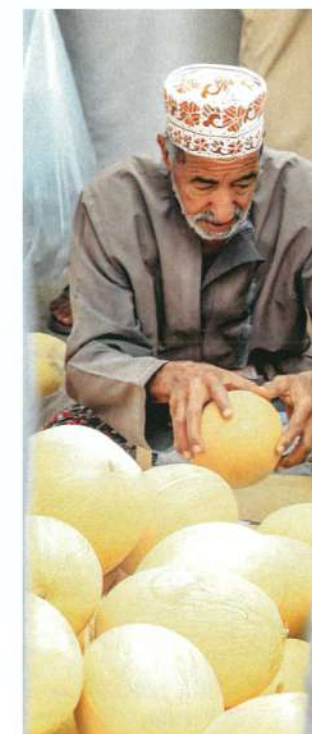
70,000 residents (rank in Oman: 10)

Despite its small size, Nizwa usually ranks as the second most popular city for international tourists in Oman. As the capital of the Al Dakhiliya governorate, Nizwa is a part-college town, part-cultural hub with plentiful cultural, historic, and natural offering. Among the town's most popular attractions are:

- Jebel Akhdar and Jebel Shams mountains
- The extensive Nizwa Old Souq and animal auctions
- Falaj Daris UNESCO World Heritage Site
- The 7th-century Al-Qala'a Mosque
- Nizwa Fort

Located at the western edge of the Hajar Mountains, Nizwa is a short drive from the majestic Jebel Akhdar and Jebel Shams and many quaint mountain villages. Nizwa also offers intrepid study-abroad students the chance to engage with the local community. A large university means that students have a multitude of opportunities to participate in local culture and social events. As a city accustomed to opening its doors to tourists, students will find a pleasantly welcoming atmosphere that facilitates a more independent learning environment.

The Daaris Institute overlooks the Nizwa Old Souq and offers students unparalleled access to Omani lifeways and culture. Students here are encouraged to get out and explore the city, which in a city like Nizwa is a sure way to meet Omanis curious to meet foreign students and establish friendships.



CULTURE AND DIVERSITY



A "hanging village" in Oman's mountainous interior • Jebel Akhdar

DIVERSITY

Noor Majan's directors have 10 years of experience successfully collaborating with students hailing from diverse identities and backgrounds. We prioritize individualized support and want to ensure that your time in Oman is not only enriching, but also secure.

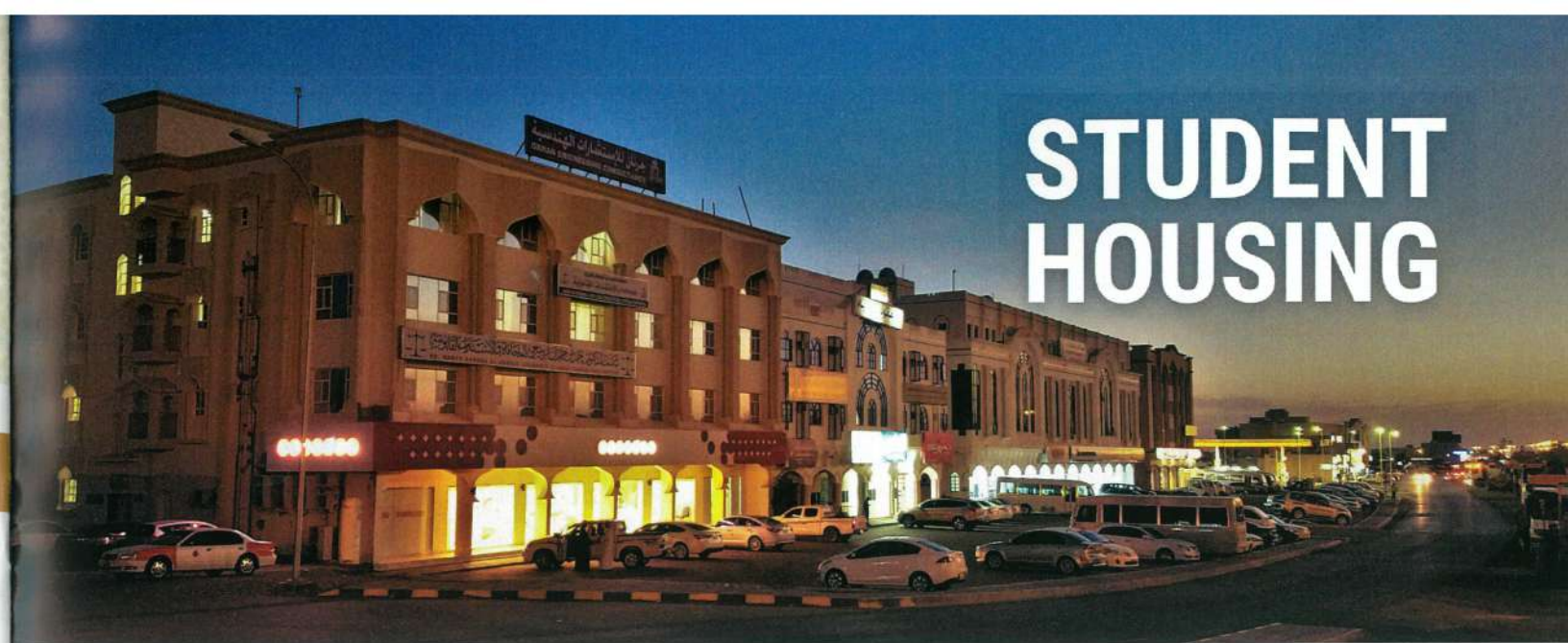
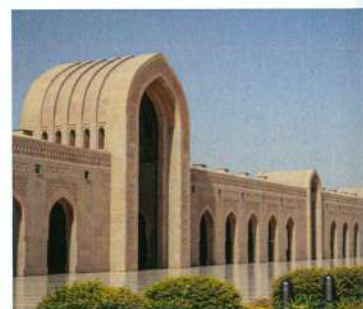
For students seeking guidance on navigating issues related to accessibility or identity within the context of Oman, we wholeheartedly encourage you to reach out to us. We are more than willing to engage in open conversations about how factors like race, gender, disability, and other personal aspects are perceived and addressed within the unique cultural context of Oman.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Students will find that Omani culture is multifaceted, with communities representing the three major sects of Islam in addition to large communities of South and Southeast Asian expatriates. Noor Majan seeks to engage students in meaningful activities to strengthen their understanding of local culture. Noor Majan-Muscat hosts lectures with experts in Arabic on subjects such as "Women in the Gulf" and "The Ibadi Tradition in Oman," among others.

Regular cultural activities include Arabic movie nights, cooking lessons, Arabic *khatt* (calligraphy) workshops, outings to museums and exhibitions, and cultural exchanges with Omani students.

Ahmed Al Sulemaini • Students try their hand in an Arab calligraphy workshop



Typical apartments in Oman

STUDENT HOUSING

STUDENT APARTMENTS

Except for professionals already residing in Oman, students at Noor Majan-Muscat or the Daaris Institute stay at our student apartments for the duration of their stay. At both locations, the course fee covers this accommodation. The apartments themselves are gender-segregated within a shared building, and both apartments have undergone recent renovations and are outfitted with modern appliances. Their locations have been carefully selected to be within walking distance of restaurants, shops, laundry services, and taxi/bus stops.

Student apartments consist of shared two, three, or four-bedroom apartments. Bedrooms are double occupancy, although students may upgrade their room to single occupancy for an additional fee (when available). The fully equipped kitchen, lounge area, bathrooms, washing machines, and flat-screen TVs are for shared usage within one apartment. All apartments are equipped with Wi-Fi internet access. All apartments are equipped with appropriate smoke detectors and air conditioning.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Mark Voss Sharqiyah Sands

IS OMAN SAFE?

Noor Majan is conscious of the perception of the Middle East as a restive conflict zone. For over 50 years, Oman has been an exception to this regional trend and is consistently rated as among the safest countries in the world. Even with Oman's exceptionally low crime rate, Noor Majan takes student safety seriously and our core staff members are available to answer emergency calls 24/7.

HOW SHOULD I DRESS IN OMAN?

Students at Noor Majan are asked to dress in a way that is considerate of the country's Islamic culture. All students regardless of gender are asked to wear modest clothes that cover their legs to the ankle and arms to the elbow. Omanis welcome foreign students to dress in national clothes (*abaya* for women and *dishdasha* for men) if they choose. Women will not be asked to cover their hair except during visits to mosques.

WHAT HEALTH SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

At orientation, all students are informed about emergency protocols and health services so they can focus on their studies with peace of mind. Noor Majan maintains contact with local health professionals who speak English, and staff members are available to accompany sick students to doctor's visits. Students studying at Noor Majan must acquire health insurance for the duration of their stay in the country.

WHAT IS FOOD LIKE IN OMAN?

Students studying at Noor Majan–Muscat are served lunch on class days. All students apartments in both Nizwa and Muscat are equipped with kitchens and modern appliances. Restaurants in Oman often serve Levantine Arab food or Indian food, which have more vegetarian options than home style Omani meals.

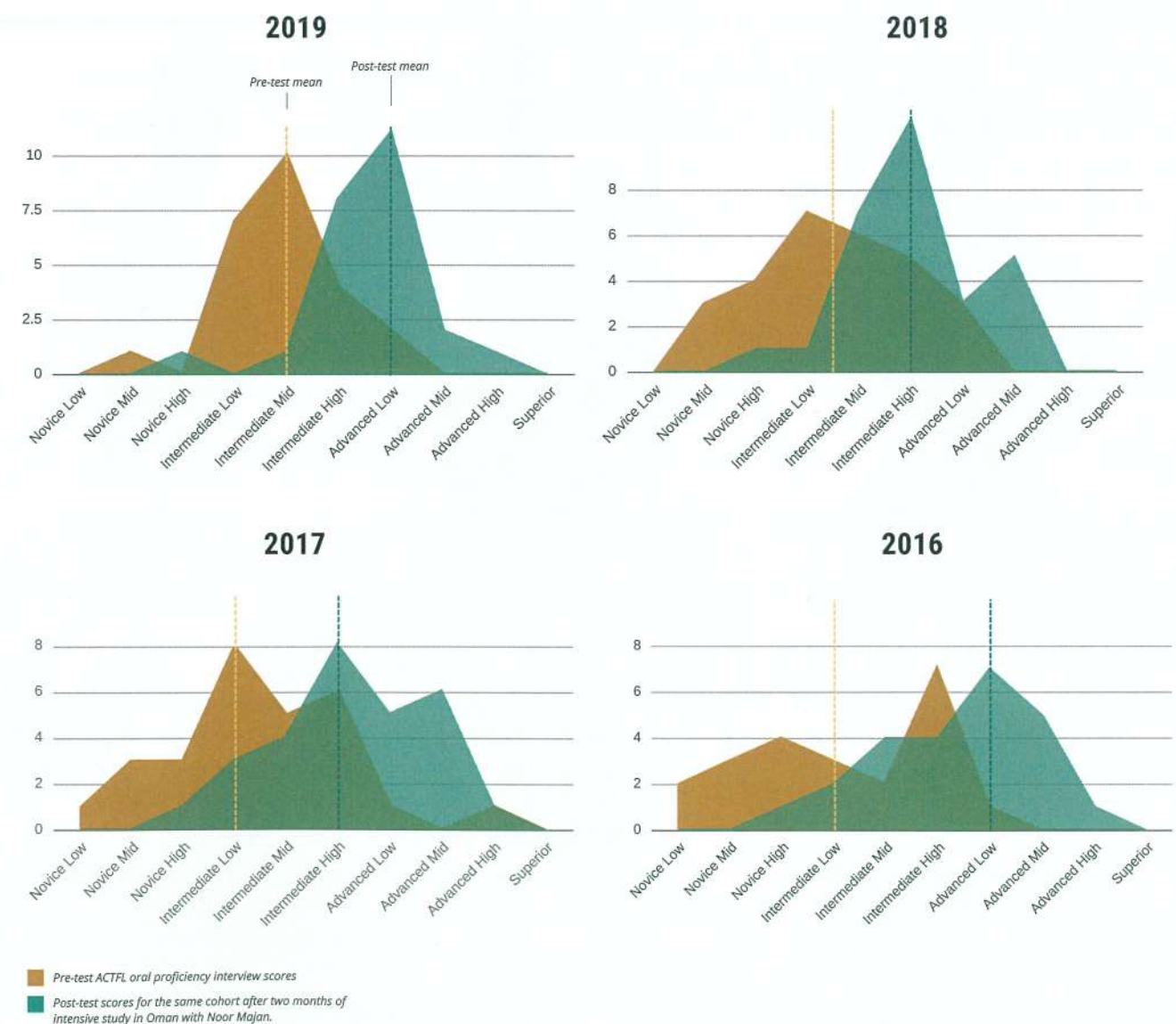
Mark Voss Jilbreen Castle, Bahla

RESULTS-DRIVEN



Noor Majan provides students with all the academic tools for students to make strides in their language learning goals. Committed students can expect to see significant gains within a few months of study. Noor Majan's CLS students from the U.S. consistently have shown marked oral proficiency interview (OPI) gains over the years.

Critical Language Scholarship Oral Proficiency Scores



NOOR MAJAN IN NUMBERS



4:1

AVERAGE STUDENT-TEACHER
RATIO

#1

ARABIC LANGUAGE
INSTITUTE IN OMAN

11

LANGUAGE
LEVELS OFFERED

2

HOURS OF LANGUAGE PARTNER
PRACTICE WEEKLY

250

MINUTES OF FORMAL LANGUAGE
INSTRUCTION DAILY

100

CONTACT
HOURS MONTHLY

15+

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
ANNUALLY

200+

STUDENTS ANNUALLY

30+

UNIVERSITIES REPRESENTED
ANNUALLY

THE TEAM



Noor Majan summer students at a farewell dinner • Ibri Castle

Our directors and teaching staff work daily to enrich the experience of our students in Oman. Our instructors are all native speakers of Arabic and are certified to teach MSA to foreigners. Students can feel comfortable going to them with any questions about local culture and language. All of our administrators have over a decade of experience working with Arabic language instruction to foreigners in Oman and make an effort to get to know all the students who come through our doors.



Sultan Al Farsi
Institute Director

Sultan holds a master's degree in teaching Arabic and German as foreign languages from the University of Leipzig (Germany). He directed the Language Department at the World Learning (SIT) Oman Center until 2011. Since co-founding Noor Majan in 2012, Sultan has overseen all aspects of operations and has striven to professionalize the teaching of Arabic as a second language in Oman.



Dr. Hussein Al Farsi
Academic Director

Hussein holds a master's degree in Teaching Arabic from the University of Nizwa (Oman) and a Ph.D. from the International Islamic University Malaysia with a focus on using classical Arabic poetry in the classroom. He has served as a consultant with the Omani government in improving Arabic language teaching throughout the Sultanate.



Samira Selle
Director of Marketing and
Student Affairs

Samira holds a master's degree in Middle East studies, political science, and French civilization from the University of Leipzig. She worked as the Academic Director of the World Learning (SIT) Oman Center, teaching courses on Middle East studies and research methods. Born in Germany with Yemeni roots, Samira is a cultural mediator and supports students with any issues they may have in Oman.



Dr. Saif Al Azri
Instructor

With a Ph.D. in the techniques of teaching the Arabic language, Saif uses modern teaching techniques and authentic source materials to enable students to attain their highest potential in Arabic.



Al Khansaa Al Rawahi
Instructor

Al Khansaa comes from a background of translation studies at Sultan Qaboos University, but started her career in teaching Arabic as a foreign language after her graduation. She joined our staff in 2019.



Youssef Al Jassasi
Instructor

Youssef has 30+ years of experience in foreign language teaching. He holds a master's degree in TESOL and served as a consultant with Omani Ministry of Education designing foreign language courses.



Asma Al Shukeili
Instructor

Asma received her B.A. in Arabic literature from the University of Qatar and has several years of experience in the field of TAFL at different language institutes, including five with Noor Majan.



Mohammed Al Maawali
Administrative Staff

Mohammed is responsible for all institute logistics and transport. He is available at our reception desk in Muscat during the day. You can contact him whenever you need assistance on institute grounds.



Alex Bare
Outreach Officer

Alex joined Noor Majan part-time in 2022 after having studied at the institute for a summer in 2018. He manages all Noor Majan social media and designs promotional materials.



Shifa Al Amri
Instructor

Shifa brings to Noor Majan her passion for public speaking, broadcasting, and an interest in researching social issues. She is currently finalizing her master's thesis.



Mohammed Taher
Grounds Keeper

Mohammed is a friendly face all our students come to know. He oversees the maintenance of all the institute grounds and student housing.



Siham Al Harrassi
Instructor

Siham holds a master's degree in Arabic and is enthusiastic about sharing her knowledge with students and light their passion for this beautiful language.



Rahma Al Azri
Administrative Assistant

Rahma majored in French and helps our students to settle in and explore Nizwa. She has a listening ear and loves to learn about other cultures and languages.



Ahmed Al Suleimani
Cultural Programs Supervisor

As a Fulbright alum, Ahmed has worked for 10 years in cross-cultural settings. He enjoys explaining Omani culture to our students and accompanies us on program excursions around Oman.

Noor Majan
Arabic Institute



دارس
Daaris

Two institutes, one quality team.

NIZWA

MUSCAT